



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

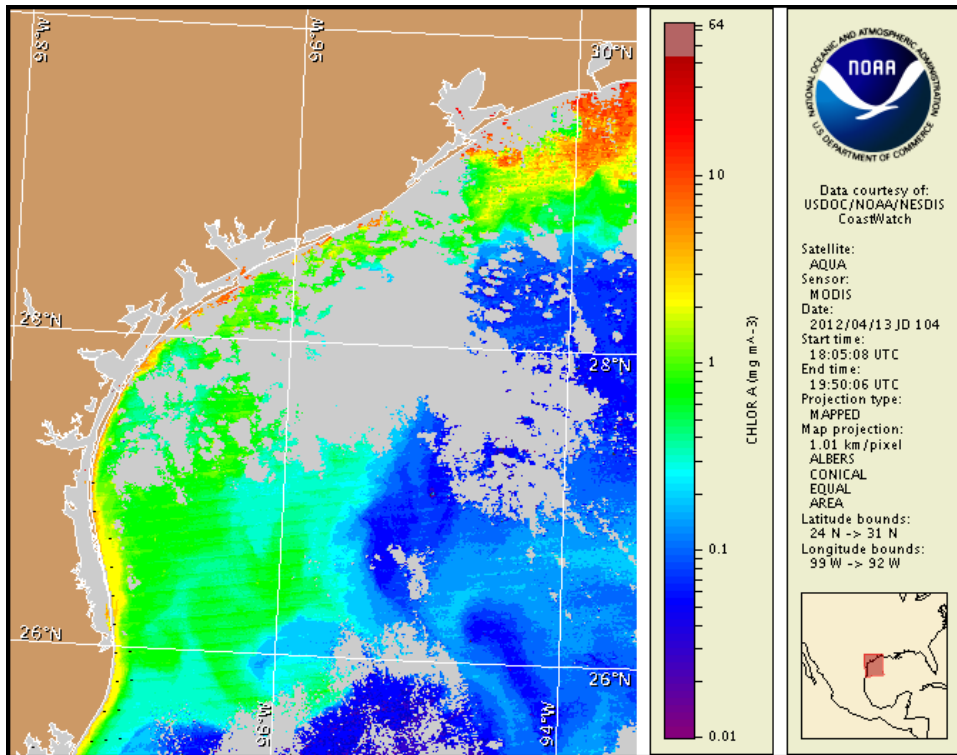
Monday, 16 April 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, April 9, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from April 6 to 13 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:
<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

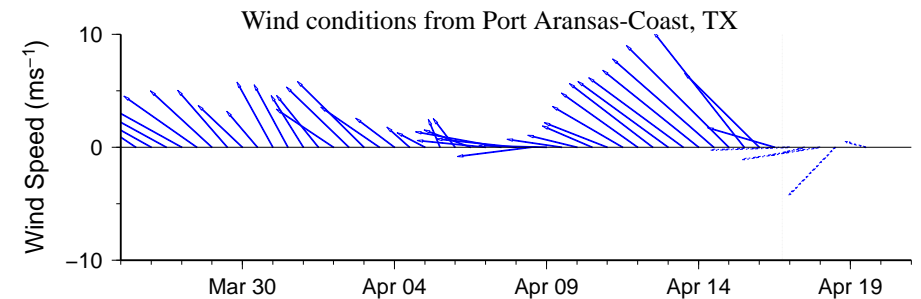
Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* (Texas red tide) at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, April 22. There is currently a bloom of the algae *Aureoumbra lagunensis* in the upper Laguna Madre region. This algae does not produce respiratory impacts associated with the Texas red tide caused by *Karenia brevis*, but it may cause discolored water.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* at the coast in Texas. The analysis of recent MODIS imagery (4/13; shown left) is limited by clouds that have partially obscured the coastline from Sabine Pass to the Pass Cavallo area and the bay areas, including the upper Laguna Madre region, where samples last confirmed a bloom of *Aureoumbra lagunensis* two weeks ago (4/4; TPWD). Patches of elevated to high chlorophyll (2 to >10 $\mu\text{g/L}$) are visible along- and offshore from Sabine Pass to Bolivar Roads Pass. Elevated chlorophyll (2-8 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is also visible stretching alongshore from Pass Cavallo to south of the Rio Grande. Elevated chlorophyll is not indicative of the presence of *K. brevis* and is most likely due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast. Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential southerly transport from the Port Aransas region from April 13-19, however due to the temporary unavailability of some data types, the potential transport distance could not be estimated.

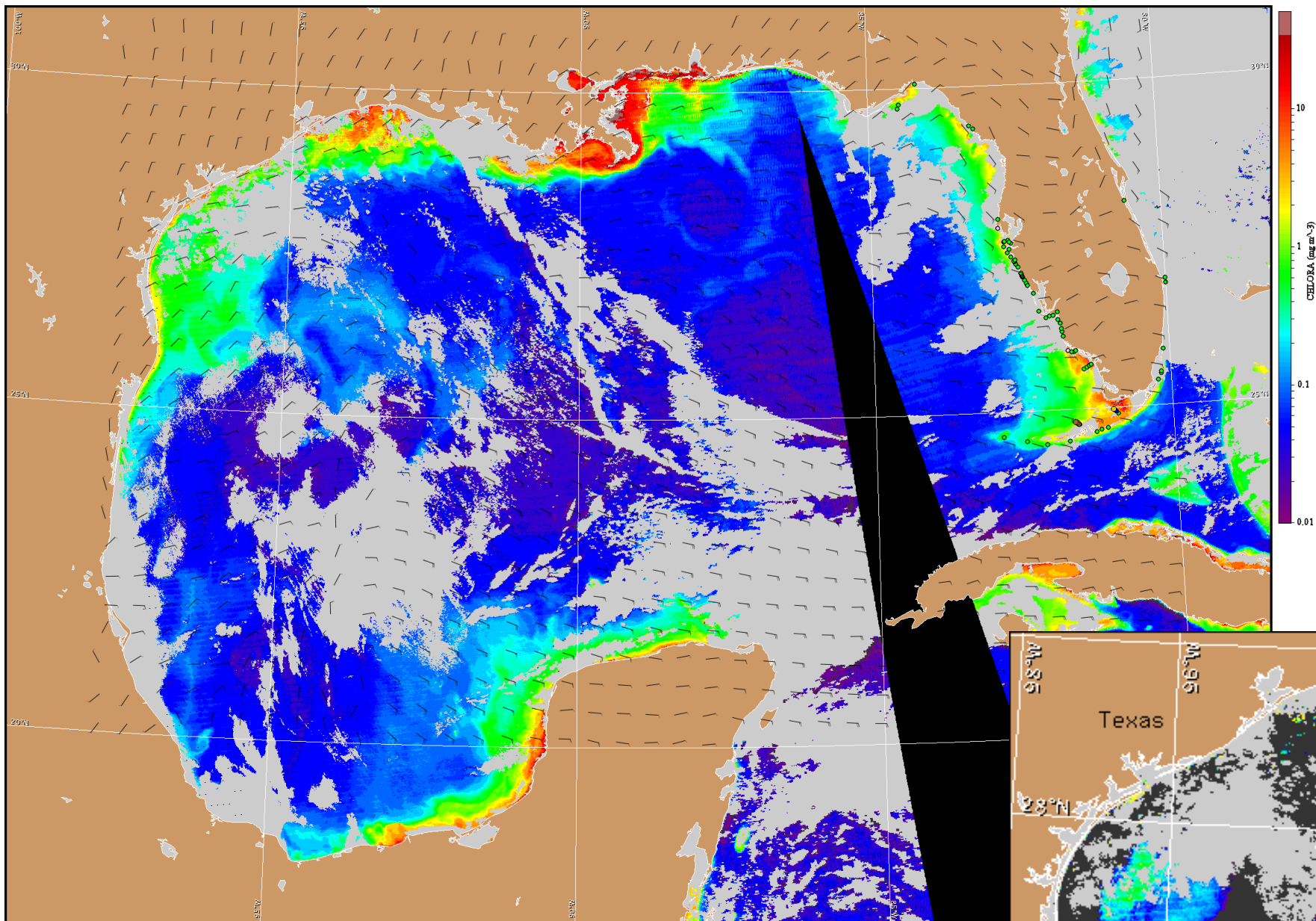
Kavanaugh, Derner



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

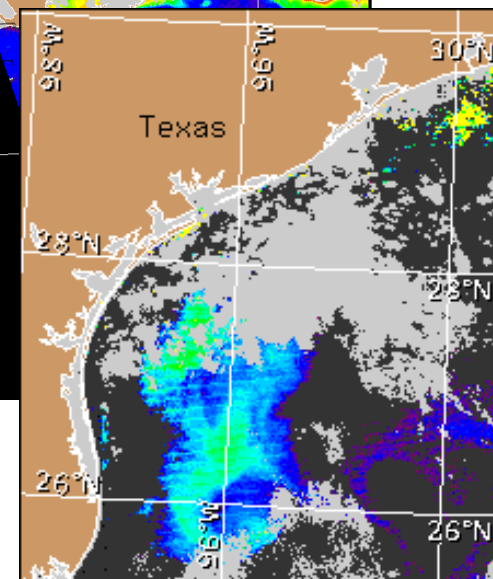
Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: East to northeast winds (5-15 kn, 3-8 m/s) today through Wednesday night. Southeast winds (5-15 kn) Thursday through Friday. East winds (10-15 kn, 3-8 m/s) Friday night becoming north winds after midnight.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for April 17, 2012 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from April 6 to 13 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).